DECLASSIFIED 257 R

Department of State TELEGRA

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

AN: 0700157-0953

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 02762 1221517
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 IO-13 LA-05
NST-01 SY-05 /062 W
------------------------106087 1221537Z /61
P 1218202 APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5500

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 2762

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, AR
SUBJECT: MORE ON THE SAN JUSTO ABDUCTIONS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 2699

1. WE HAVE LEARNED FURTHER DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT IN WHICH CPL. RAUL EDUARDO LEDESMA AND HIS FIANCEE ELENA NOCETTI WERE ABDUCTED OUTSIDE THE CATHEDRAL OF SAN JUSTO ON MARCH 26, AND OF EVENTS FOLLOWING.

2. A RELIABLE SOURCE HAS INFORMED US THAT ELEMENTS OF ARMY UNITS STATIONED UPON ARRIVING FOR SUNDAY. THE SPECIAL INTENTION OF THE UNITS CONCERNED THAT EASTER SUNDAY EVENING AT 2000 (ONE HOUR LATER THAN NORMAL CURFEW) WAS APPARENTLY "POLITICAL": POINTED FOR "UNITED OPPOSITION MOVEMENT" PUNISHED GUERILLA ACTIVITY. FURTHER DISCHARGE INDICATES THAT MR. FIGUEREZ, A PARAGUAYAN JAILED SINCE DAWN OF 1976 WHILE ARGENTINE HUSBAND ESCAPED THE SECURITY DRAGNET THAT LATTED HIS WIFE, IS CURRENTLY BEING HELD AT VILLA DEVOTO BUT HAS BEEN MARKED FOR EXPULSION. THE NETHERLANDS HAD AGREED TO RECEIVE
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUENOS 02762 1221517Z

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Dzschke DATE 4/22/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☒ RELEASABLE☒
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

MRS. BENITEZ BUT TROUBLE DEVELOPED WHEN IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT HER CHILDREN ARE FOR TECHNICAL-LEGAL REASONS NOT TO BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE ARGENTINA. IT HAD BEEN ARRANGED THAT THE SAN JUSTO MASS BE SAID FOR THIS FAMILY. (COMMENT: HUMAN DIRECTOR KEVIN LYNCHETTE TOLD US 9/11 THAT MRS. BENITEZ HAD AT LAST ACCEPTED EXPULSION FROM ARGENTINA, EVEN THOUGH HER CHILDREN'S DEPARTURE HAS STILL NOT BEEN RESOLVED.)

3. WE HAVE A SUCCESSIVE REPORT WHICH WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY SAYS THAT TWO DAYS AFTER THE MASS (MARCH 29) A LARGE NUMBER OF CAPABLE PEOPLE DRESSED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES FIRST CONFINED A NEIGHBORHOOD BAKER AND LATER IN THE DAY RAIDED THE OFFICES OF A PERSON IN THE "CIUDAD CENTRAL DELICADO" AREA ADJACENT TO SAN JUSTO. THE DOCTOR BECAME A CAPTIVE WHEN HE THE LEG DURING ABDUCTION. DURING THE RAIDS A GROUP OF NEIGHBORS ASSEMBLED TO PROTEST. SHOTS WERE FIRED OVER THEIR HEADS, AND AS SECURITY CARS PULLED AWAY--TAKING THE DOCTOR AND HIS WIFE--SOME OF THE NEIGHBORS PILED INTO A CAR AND FOLLOWED. THE DOCTOR, HIS WIFE AND THE OCCUPANTS OF THE PURSUING CAR HAVE NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE.

4. TWO OTHER ABDUCTIONS OF PHYSICIANS HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO US WHICH APPEAR TO BE RELATED TO THE EVENTS IN SAN JUSTO AND CIUDAD CENTRAL DELICADO: DR. NILDA NORMAL DOCTOR OF LITERATURE WAS ABDUCTED ON APRIL 5, TAKEN FROM AN AMBULANCE NEAR THE CLINIC WHERE SHE WORKED IN THE FEDERAL CAPITAL. AND HUSBAND, DR. NORBERTO IGNACIO LIUSKI, IS BELIEVED BY HIS PARENTS TO HAVE BEEN ABDUCTED THE FOLLOWING DAY. BOTH DOCTORS LIUSKI WERE OPENLY AND FOR A LONG TIME MEMBERS OF THE "PARTIDO COMUNISTA
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

REVOLUCIONARIO" (NORBERTO A CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER) WHO WORKED AS VOLUNTEERS IN THE POOR "CIUDAD CENTRAL DELICADO" DISTRICT. (PCR IS NOT A LEGAL PARTY & IS REGARDED BY GOA AS SUBVERSIVE) NORBERTO LIUSKI'S MOTHER AND FATHER WERE TOLD BY ONE OF HIS FRIENDS THAT NORBERTO HAS TO HAVE ATTENDED A MEETING IN THAT AREA OF THE CITY SHORTLY AFTER EASTER, BUT WAS WARNED BY ANOTHER FRIEND TO STAY AWAY SINCE THERE HAD BEEN TROUBLE FOR MEMBERS OF THE GROUP MEETING AS A RESULT OF THE MASS FOR CIRILA BENITEZ. ANOTHER APPARENT LINKAGE OF THE

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

LINSKI DISAPPEARANCES WITH THE SAN JUSTO EVENTS IS THAT THE AMBULANCE DRIVER SEIZED AT THE SAME TIME HILDA NORMAL ERENU DE LINSKI WAS TAKEN WAS SUBSEQUENTLY LET GO ON A STREET IN SAN JUSTO.

5. THE AREA IN QUESTION IS UNDER THE SECURITY CONTROL OF THE THIRD REGIMENT OF THE TENTH BRIGADE OF THE FIRST ARMY CORPS. BE KNOW OF RAIDS BY OUR SECURITY ARM THAT TAKE PLACE IN THE TERRITORY OF ANOTHER, BUT THE PATTERN OF EVENTS AT SAN JUSTO RAISED THE SUGGESTION AT LEAST THAT PERSONS GEOGRAPHICALLY ATTACHED TO THE ZONE CARRIED OUT THE ABDUCTIONS. REGULAR PROVINCIAL POLICE FORCES IN SAN JUSTO HAVE THE REPUTATION ALSO OF BEING UNSCRUPULOUS TOUGH OPERATORS.

6. EMBASSY HOPES TO HAVE FURTHER DETAILS ON THE SAN JUSTO ABDUCTIONS EARLY NEXT WEEK.
CASTRO

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED